



RockvilleReports

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New Rockville Skate Park is Now Open

Features Ramps, Bowls, Rails and Lights

The new Rockville Skate Park officially opened for community use in June.

The new 15,000-square-foot concrete skate park located in the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center outdoor pool parking lot, at 355 Martins Lane, features an entrance building with a family/gender-neutral restroom, lighting, landscaping, parking, a storm-water management facility and access road improvements.

The new venue replaces the much smaller old wood and steel park, which opened in 2001. That park had deteriorated after close to two decades in operation and was demolished.

Spohn Ranch, Inc. of Los Angeles, California, designed and built the new park after the city gathered input on design from the local skating community. Spohn Ranch has also designed and built skate

parks in Prince George's and Howard counties in Maryland; Fairfax County, Virginia; Ocean City, New Jersey; West Virginia; California; and other areas of the U.S.

The new park features a kidney bowl, manual pads, quarter pipes, radius wedge, rainbow grind rail, grind ledge, slappy curb and pole. It is designed to be fun for every rider, no matter their age, style, skill level or wheel type.

Summer hours are noon-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/skatepark for more details.

To promote safety, all park users, of any age, must wear a protective helmet. While some loaner helmets will be available, visitors are encouraged to bring their own. Staff members will be on duty during operating hours. ✚

Angela Judge Becomes Rockville's New Deputy City Manager

Appointee Was Assistant City Manager to North Carolina City

Angela Judge, formerly an assistant city manager with Elizabeth City, North Carolina, and the City of Atlanta, Georgia, has been appointed by City Manager Rob DiSpirito as Rockville's next deputy city manager. Judge began in her new role on Monday, June 14.

"I'm delighted to join the city's team in advancing innovative and progressive policies that will ensure Rockville remains a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive community, and a model



Angela Judge, deputy city manager

for dynamic 21st century governance. My husband Warren and I are looking forward to becoming part of the Rockville family," Judge said.

The deputy city manager assists the city manager in directing and working with city departments to achieve departmental and citywide objectives, initiate and oversee strategic plans, and execute Mayor and Council policy initiatives. This deputy city manager serves as acting city manager in the city *continued on pg. 6...*

COVID-19:

Vaccinated Visitors No Longer Required to Wear Masks When Visiting Most City Facilities
Change Follows Latest State and County Guidance

Following the latest federal, state and county guidance, employees of and visitors to most City of Rockville facilities who have received full COVID-19 vaccinations will no longer be required to wear masks.

Unvaccinated individuals will still be encouraged to wear face coverings to protect themselves.

Face covering and mask requirements are still in place in health-care settings, for licensed camps programs and on public transportation. Regardless of vaccination status, city staff

and students will still wear face coverings at the Montrose Discovery Preschool. Masks and face coverings will still need to be worn by staff and riders on Rockville Senior Center buses, or by staff and participants in summer camps and youth recreation programs.

The Mayor and Council adopted changes to the city's COVID-19 policies regarding face coverings at their Tuesday, June 1 meeting, aligning city policies with the latest guidance issued *continued on pg. 8...*

Portion of Baltimore Road Closed Until October

Closure is Part of City's Ongoing Safety and Access Improvements Project

A portion of Baltimore Road is closed to vehicles and pedestrians for the next several months as part of a city project to improve safety and access along this corridor between Rockville Town Center and the city's east side.

Variable message boards and detour signs are posted advis-

ing motorists and pedestrians of the closure between Gladstone Drive and Broadwood Drive. Vehicles should avoid the area by using MD 28 or following posted detour signs to Veirs Mill Road to get around the work area by taking Broadwood Drive on the east side of the closure, and Edmonston Drive on the

westside. Pedestrians should follow pedestrian detour signs on streets to the south of Baltimore Road to get around the work area.

Work during the closure will include replacing the roadway culvert at the stream crossing near Rockville Cemetery, storm drain installation and stream

restoration. The road is expected to reopen at the conclusion of construction in mid-October.

Roadway resurfacing will be one of the final steps of the project, which is expected to be completed in spring 2022, if work proceeds as planned. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/baltimoreroadproject. ✚

July Fourth in Rockville

City government will be closed Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.

Rockville community centers, the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Glenview Mansion and the Rockville Civic Center business office will be closed. Community centers recently expanded their services and operating hours. Learn more in the article on this page.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will close at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 4 and will be open July 5. Find summer hours for individual swim center facilities at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter.

Recycling and trash collections will occur one day later than usual throughout the week. For more information on recycling and trash collection, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters on July 4 and July 5.

Rockville's Independence Day Celebration, typically held each July Fourth, has been canceled due to public health concerns arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-5000. ✚

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Rockville Public Safety Awards to Honor City First Responders in September

The Rockville Public Safety Awards returns to its traditional format on Wednesday, Sept. 8 at Lakewood Country Club, 13901 Glen Mill Road. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon begins at noon.

Now in its 32nd year, the program, presented by the City of Rockville, Rockville Chamber of Commerce and city service organizations, honors members of the Rockville City Police Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, the Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department.

Tickets are \$40 per person; \$350 for a table of 10. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Marji Graf at 301-424-9300 or marji@rockvillechamber.org.

For more information, or to register, visit business.rockvillechamber.org/events/details/32nd-annual-rockville-public-safety-awards-ceremony.

Road Trip Driving Tip: Don't Drive Distracted

While relaxed health restrictions and reopenings have people on the go again this summer and reaching out to reunite with friends and family, it's important to remember not to reconnect using your phone while driving.

Motorists caught talking or texting on a handheld phone while driving in Maryland face a maximum fine of \$83 for a first offense, \$140 for a second offense and \$160 for a third offense. Drivers can also be fined \$70 and face one point on their driving record if caught texting while driving, or \$110 and three points if the use of a device contributes to a crash. Police officers who observe this primary offense can stop drivers, regardless of the presence of other violations.

As part of a national distracted driving initiative on April 8, Maryland State Police issued 386 citations, 474 warnings and 40 safety equipment repair orders. Of those, 116 citations and 119 warnings were specifically for distracted driving. Locally, state troopers joined officers from the Gaithersburg City Police Department, Rockville City Police Department, Montgomery County Police Department and Maryland Transportation Authority Police. The agencies conducted 138 traffic stops, issuing 104 citations, 78 warnings and 19 equipment repair orders, and arresting two people on outstanding warrants.

The increased enforcement follows the 2014 passage of Jake's Law. Named after Jake Owen, a 5-year-old from Baltimore when he was killed in a crash caused by a distracted driver in 2011, the law states that a driver causing serious injury or death while talking or texting on a handheld phone may receive up to three years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Distracted driving contributes to more than 26,000 injuries and 180 fatalities on Maryland roads each year, according to state police.

Rockville and Shady Grove Metro Stations to Close in September for Repairs

The Rockville and Shady Grove Metro stations are scheduled to be closed from Sept. 11-Dec. 4 for reconstruction and repairs to canopies over platforms at those stations.

During construction, free shuttle bus service will be provided in both directions to and from those Red Line stations.

Metro is scheduled to demolish and reconstruct the platform canopy at Rockville and repair the canopy at Shady Grove. The Red Line is the oldest line in the Metrorail system and the canopies' concrete beam structures, original to construction in the 1980s, are deteriorating.

"Replacing the canopy at Rockville Station will require heavy equipment and the demolition of the existing structure, section by section," according to a Metro news

release. "The new canopy structure will be pre-fabricated and lifted into place for installation."

The canopy improvements at the Rockville station will also include new, more efficient LED skylights, an upgraded speaker system for station announcements, new digital screens for passenger information and new CCTV cameras for improved security.

Visit wmata.com/about/news/Red-Line-safety-and-capital-improvements.cfm for more information.

Meanwhile, Metro continues work to repair the pedestrian bridge linking Rockville Town Center and the Rockville station over Rockville Pike. Those repairs are expected to be completed in October. For more information, visit rockvillereports.com/rockville-metro-pedestrian-bridge-repairs-to-begin-march-1. 🌸



City to Install Bike Lanes on Both Sides of Maryland Avenue

The city is planning to install bike lanes in late summer in both directions on Maryland Avenue between South Washington Street and Great Falls Road.

To create the bike lanes, the city will resurface Maryland Avenue, remark the pavement and install bike lane signage. The new *continued on pg. 3...*

Help City Police Stop the Noise Are You Exhausted by Loud Vehicles?

Loud, noisy vehicles are a nuisance. The Rockville City Police Department is asking everyone to help stop noise from car meetups, racing and loud exhausts. It's not only disruptive to neighborhoods, it's also dangerous and illegal.

RCPD has issued more than 250 warnings, citations or equipment repair orders since September and has participated in several multi-agency efforts over the past year to address aggressive, distracted and impaired driving in Montgomery County.

Recent joint operations targeted loud exhaust, aggressive driving and excessive speeding, and involved Maryland State Police, Maryland Transportation Authority Police, and officers from Montgomery County, Rockville and Gaithersburg.

One such operation, on the evening of April 20, along MD 355 from Professional Drive in Gaithersburg to Edmonston Drive in Rockville, resulted in 68 citations, 57 warnings,

49 equipment repair orders and two criminal arrests (one for a controlled dangerous substance and one for a warrant). A similar operation along MD 355 on June 10, resulted in 42 citations, 101 warnings and 41 equipment repair orders.

Similar operations are planned throughout the summer. Other initiatives have sought to address distracted and impaired driving. For more information, see the article on this page.

Police encourage community members to report vehicle noise at the time it is occurring, whenever possible.

Call the RCPD non-emergency line at 240-314-8900 if the situation is occurring in the city.

For situations seen or heard on I-270, call the Maryland State Police Rockville Barrack at 301-424-2101.

If you are unsure about jurisdiction, call the Montgomery County Police Department non-emergency line at 301-279-8000 and they will route the call to the proper department. 🌸

National Night Out Celebrates the Community's Role in Crime Prevention Meet Neighbors, Connect with Police

Rockville neighbors are invited to celebrate their communities on Tuesday, Aug. 3 as the Rockville City Police Department participates in National Night Out.

Now in its 38th year, National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. It aims to raise awareness about crime and drug prevention, generate support for anti-crime programs and strengthen community spirit and community policing partnerships. Neighborhoods will host block parties featuring cookouts, bounce houses, carnival games and giveaways.

McGruff the Crime Dog will stop by several block parties to spread his anti-crime and anti-drug message. The Mayor and Council, RCPD officers and members of the Montgomery



McGruff, the Crime Dog.

County State's Attorney's Office will also visit many of the gatherings.

Residents are invited to turn on outdoor lights as part of the traditional display of front porch vigils, sending the message to criminals that neighborhoods are fighting back against crime.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/nno. To register your block party, contact Cpl. Derrick Tibbs at 240-314-8956 or dtibbs@rockville.md.gov. 🌸

HELP A NEIGHBOR IN NEED

DONATE NOW

The City of Rockville is a community of neighbors who look out for each other. Go to rockvillemd.gov/donation to find out how you can help.

City of Rockville

CITY OF ROCKVILLE'S
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN TASK FORCE
HOSTS

Public Safety and the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community

A Conversation with
Chief Victor V. Brito,
Rockville City Police
Department

THURSDAY, JULY 15
7-8:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL

To join online: <https://bit.ly/AAPIBrito2021>
For additional info, call 240-314-8316

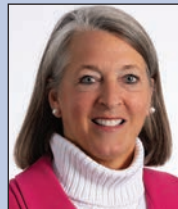
For Americans With Disabilities Act modifications, contact the ADA coordinator at jkelly@rockvillemd.gov, relay 711 or 240-314-8108.

City of Rockville

WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING? Not only does July recognize American independence, it marks National Parks and Recreation Month (so enjoy one of Rockville's 67 parks and numerous summer programs). If eating out is your thing — say while you're in a Rockville park — July also celebrates baked beans, hot dogs, grilling, ice cream and ... picnics!

Mayor & Council

mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov



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Councilmember Monique Ashton
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VIRTUAL MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD ONLINE. Meetings are closed to in-person attendance and are livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.

Meetings Schedule: Mondays, July 12 and 19 at 7 p.m., with a work session at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 1 and at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 6. The Mayor and Council will hold their final meeting before summer recess at 7 p.m. Aug. 2. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Drop-in sessions will be held with Mayor Newton, by phone, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., with Councilmember Feinberg on July 19, and Councilmember Myles on Aug. 2. To participate, sign up by 10 a.m. the day of the drop-in at www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/City-Clerk-11/Sign-up-for-Dropin-Meetings-227. If you wish to submit comments in writing for community forum or public hearings, please email mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by 10 a.m. on the day of. Share comments live during community forum. Sign up by calling the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations at 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. the day of the meeting. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website. To practice responsible social distancing, Mayor and Council meetings will be conducted by teleconference and broadcast on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Comp Plan Discussion Continues Adoption Planned for Early August

The Mayor and Council are continuing to discuss parts of the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan, leading up to its possible adoption in August.

See the breakout box for a meeting timeline.

The draft comprehensive plan is based on feedback gathered throughout the Rockville 2040 process, which included numerous listening sessions, citywide forums, open houses and other meetings, as well as analysis and discussion by the Planning Commission and city staff.

Once adopted by the Mayor and Council, it will replace the city's 2002 comprehensive plan and many of its subsequent amendments.

For more info, see meeting agendas at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/Rockville2040 or contact principal planner Clark Larson at clarson@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8225. ✚

ROCKVILLE 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TIMELINE

6 p.m. • Thursday, July 1

PA 4: West End and Woodley Gardens East-West.

PA 10: Montrose and North Farm.

6 p.m. • Tuesday, July 6

PA 13: Potomac Woods, Orchard Ridge and Falls Ridge.

PA 2: East Rockville.

PA 5: Woodley Gardens and College Gardens.

PA 7: Montgomery College Area. Housing Element.

7 p.m. • Monday, July 12

PA 14: Rockshire and Fallsmead.

PA 15: Falls Grove and Research Boulevard.

PA 16: King Farm and Shady Grove.

PA 17: Southlawn and RedGate.

7 p.m. • Monday, July 19

Final review and possible introduction.

7 p.m. • Monday, Aug. 2

Adopt plan.

Note: The code denotes planning areas, which can be located in the comprehensive plan draft at www.rockvillemd.gov/Rockville2040. Meetings are subject to change.

Rockville Station Study Moves Ahead

A study by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority of Rockville Station is moving ahead. The Mayor and Council were briefed in June on results of two community visioning workshops held in May, and provided feedback that will guide next steps in the study.

The project is sponsored by WMATA in coordination with the city and Montgomery County.

To view the briefing, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter and click the TV icon next to the June 21 meeting.

The station, which opened in 1984, is a critical part of the city's transportation network, but showing its age.

The study's goals are to develop recommendations for improvements to the station's aging infrastructure and connections with Rockville's downtown and neighborhoods to the east, and potential development opportunities at the site and strategies to increase bus and train ridership.

Public meetings later in the process will allow the Rockville community to give feedback on the draft concept plans that will be developed.

Find more information on the study at www.rockvillemd.gov/2356/Rockville-Station-Study or contact principal planner Clark Larson at clarson@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8225. ✚



LEARN MORE ON ROCKVILLE 11

www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

Bike Lanes Installation

continued from pg. 2...

markings will remove one of the two existing travel lanes on eastbound Maryland Avenue and create bike lanes on the eastbound and westbound side of the roadway. The city does not have any intention to change any other existing lane configurations. The city has selected a design contractor to

develop signage and marking plans.

Staff from the city's Department of Public Works held a virtual community meeting on June 24 to share the draft signage and marking plans, and give residents an opportunity to offer input.

For more information, email transportationinquiry@rockvillemd.gov. ✚

IMPORTANT NUMBERS: Main: 240-314-5000

Police Non-emergency: 240-314-8900

24-Hour Utility Emergency Report Hotline: 240-314-8567



STAY INFORMED: The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting.

Mayor and Council Approve FY22 Budget That Maintains Tax Rate and Services

The Mayor and Council in May adopted a \$141.2 million city budget that addresses financial pressures on the Rockville community due to the COVID-19 pandemic and maintains the levels of service that city residents expect.

The adopted budget is an increase of just under 1% from the Fiscal Year 2021 adopted budget.

The adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins July 1, keeps the city's real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation the same. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. Rockville has not increased its property tax rate in over 25 years.

Water and sewer rates will remain the same through calendar year 2021 and the Mayor and Council will continue to evaluate the rate structure after hearing from property owners during the city's Fiscal Year 2022 budget deliberations. City staff will examine how the federal American Rescue Plan, which provides relief funds to aid state and local governments to offset budgetary, economic and financial impacts of the pandemic, can be used to provide rate relief to water and sewer customers in coming years. Staff will return to the Mayor and Council in the fall with a proposed rate plan that takes effect beginning in January.

The budget includes an increase of \$14 per year for refuse and recycling collection and no increase in the stormwater management fee.

The budget uses resources wisely and focuses on several Mayor and Council priorities, including assistance to the community impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; affordable housing and tax credit programs; safe streets and sidewalks for pedestrians and bicycles; environmental sustainability; social justice, inclusion, and diversity initiatives; and economic development. It includes funding to contract with Montgomery County to provide mental health services and support to the police department, and an assistant to the city manager for social justice, inclusion and diversity. The Mayor and Council also directed funding of regular employee merit and step pay increases, and a \$15-per-hour minimum wage for temporary employees.

For more info, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget, where the adopted budget will be posted later this month. ✚

Get Involved with the City

- **Send an email** to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov.
- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** to be on a board or commission. Find ways to give of your time and talents at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Boards and Commissions

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to: Mayor and Council, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

While some meetings are canceled, other boards and commissions meetings will take place virtually. See times and dates, and ways to participate on city's online calendar: www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx.

- **July 19 and 28; Aug. 11**
Planning Commission 7 p.m.
(Meetings will be held by teleconference. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details closer to the meeting dates.)

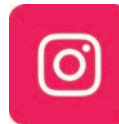
Vacancies

The Mayor and Council are seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Ethics Commission (2)
- Human Rights Commission (1)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (2)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs (1)
- Recreation and Park Advisory Board (2)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Traffic and Transportation Commission (1)

For more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.

Connect with us on Social Media.



► SPEAK UP ◀

Report potential fraud, waste and abuse related to City of Rockville government services and employees.

Call 1-866-921-6714

Email rockvillemd@integritycounts.ca
Visit www.integritycounts.ca/org/rockvillemd
For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/fraud-waste-abuse.

Explore Rockville by Bike, With Friends

Tuesday evening bike rides are back.

The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee leads casual neighborhood rides of about one hour on Tuesdays throughout the summer. Routes are on paved, shared-use paths, some sidewalks and some short sections of quiet streets. The group rides at the pace of the slowest rider, so no one gets left behind. Rain at the start cancels the ride; wet pavement does not.

Rides meet at 6:30 p.m. on the following Tuesdays:

- **July 6, 13, 20 and 27:** Meet in the parking lot at Westat, 1450 Research Blvd.
- **Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31:** Meet at in the parking lot at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Follow @bikerockville on Facebook and www.meetup.com/BikeRockville for last-minute changes and news about impromptu rides.

Learn more about biking in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling and more about the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee at www.rockvillemd.gov/rbac.

Bike Rack Grants Available for Businesses

Bicycle parking means business. Studies show that businesses with bicycle parking near their storefront get a measurable sales boost.

Business owners without bicycle parking near their shop or office could qualify for a rack — provided and installed for free by the City of Rockville — under the city's Bike Rack Grant Program. Learn more about the program and find an application by visiting www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling and selecting "Bicycle Parking."

Residents interested in seeing bicycle parking at specific locations can direct business owners to the website. For more information, email Rockville's bicycle and pedestrian coordinator at bikeways@rockvillemd.gov.

Recreation and Parks Foundation Recognizes Contributors

The Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation has recognized Rockville resident Robert Daniels and the Rockville Art League with Community Achievement Awards, an annual program that thanks individuals and organizations for their contributions to Rockville's Recreation and Parks programs and facilities.

The awards ceremony coincides with July's National Recreation and Parks month. The foundation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to assist financially with efforts to improve recreation activities and facilities in Rockville.

Robert Daniels has dedicated his time and talents to making Mary Trumbo Park a special place by planting and maintaining the sundial bed. He has provided hundreds of plants and countless hours of his own time to ensure the sundial bed and park looks its best. Mary Trumbo Park is located at Park Road and North Grandin Avenue.

Since 1958, the **Rockville Art League** has been a developer and promoter of fine arts in the Rockville community, celebrating artists and their accomplishments. In the 1950s, its efforts established the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. The league has curated numerous exhibits at the Glenview gallery, Thomas Farm Community Center, City Hall, and other city facilities.

Members have willingly volunteered their knowledge, skills and tools to assist with calls for artists for the city's Arts in Public Places program. Over the past year, RAL successfully ventured into virtual exhibits to continue their support of art and artists while physical galleries were closed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn more about the Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation at www.rppfi.org.

City Continues to Provide Safe, Reliable Drinking Water In a Year of Uncertainty

In a year when safety and reliability were as important as ever, Rockville's drinking water once again met or exceeded all federal water quality regulations limits, the city's Department of Public Works said in the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report released July 1.

The city's water treatment plant, on the banks of the Potomac River, serves 70% of Rockville, or approximately 13,000 accounts and 52,000 community members. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission serves the remainder of the city.

"As the COVID-19 pandemic stretched into 2021, the city continued to balance the safety of staff with the necessity of maintaining operations at the water treatment plant," Craig L. Simoneau, the city's director of public works, said in a letter introducing the report. "We reduced staffing levels to minimize potential exposure to the virus while maintaining round-the-clock monitoring of the city's water supply."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "There is no evidence showing anyone has

gotten COVID-19 through drinking water, recreational water, or wastewater." Learn more at www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/index.html.

Plant operators actively monitor water quality to ensure protective levels of chlorine and corrosion control, which prevents lead and copper in distribution pipes from leaching into drinking water. For their efforts, 2020 was the seventh consecutive year that plant operators received the Directors Award for voluntary participation in the Partnership for Safe

Water. The award recognizes the competence of the city's operators and their desire to go beyond regulatory standards to achieve the highest water quality for Rockville customers.

The city is conducting lead and copper testing this summer and anticipates continued compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules for acceptable levels of lead and copper in drinking water. Results will appear on the city's website and in next year's water quality report.

To learn more about the source and quality of Rockville's drinking water, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/annualwaterquality2021. ❖

Grants in High Gear: City Uses State, Federal Funding for Biking-Related Projects

With nearly 35 miles of shared-use paths, 4 miles of bike lanes, and 3 miles of roads with sharrows, the City of Rockville is striving to create, maintain and improve its safe, well-connected network for bicycling in the city.

To do this, the city continues to pursue and receive monetary grants from federal and state government, and private entities. Bicycling-related grants being applied to ongoing city projects include:

- \$60,000 from a federal Transportation Program

Alternatives grant to study the feasibility of a shared use path on Scott Drive and Veirs Drive.

- \$280,000 for the design phase of the Stonestreet Corridor Improvements project, which will add pedestrian and bicycle facilities to Park Road and North Stonestreet Avenue. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/2004/Stonestreet-Corridor.

Other bicycling-related grants used in recent years include:

- \$100,000 for a shared-use

path along Falls Road.

- \$100,000 for two new Capital Bikeshare stations in Twinbrook.
- \$33,900 from the Maryland Bikeways Program to install sharrows (roadway markings for lanes shared by bicycles and motor vehicles) on city streets.
- \$30,000 through the federal Transportation/Land-Use Connections program, to fund technical assistance for the city's Bikeway Master Plan.

Earlier this year, the city applied for the AARP

Community Challenge initiative to fund bike lanes along Maryland Avenue between Great Falls Road and South Washington Street (read more about that project in the article on page 2), and a Transportation/Land-Use Connections grant for a pedestrian and bicycle bridge in Twinbrook.

Learn more about bicycling in Rockville, including maps, information about bike share and the city's Bikeway Master Plan at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling. ❖

Annual Crime Report Shows Reductions Across All Major Categories

The Rockville City Police Department reported a decrease in violent crimes in 2020, in an annual crime report that analyzes the year's crime statistics and details the department's ongoing community policing mission.

"Our nation continues to experience profound challenges in the law enforcement world," Chief Victor V. Brito wrote in a message introducing the report. "I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of the men and women of the Rockville City Police Department, and express my gratitude to the community members of Rockville for their support. All of the Department's accomplishments are a direct result of many people working together to do things right.

Exceptional personnel and community support are vital to the Department's continued growth and success."

Each year, the department prepares a crime report under the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System.

RCPD's 66 officers responded to 20,280 calls for service in 2020, or 71% of all calls within Rockville's city limits to city or county police, or the county sheriff's office.

Overall, between 2019 and 2020, crimes against people, which include homicides, assaults and sex offenses, decreased by 6.8%, from 424 offenses in 2019 to 395 offenses in 2020.

Crimes against property, including burglaries, robberies, thefts and vandalism, decreased by 8.8% (from 1,721 to 1,570).

Crimes against society, including drug, prostitution and weapons offenses, decreased by 42%, from 369 to 214, including a 47.4% decrease in drug/narcotic violations.

City police responded to 23 reports of heroin or opioid overdoses in 2020, an 8% decrease from 2019, and nine reports of heroin or opioid possession, a 47% decrease.

The report also includes:

- A table showing arrests by race, gender and age and detailing arrests and citations. In 2020, there were 504 arrests, including 78 for driving under the influence; 7,493 parking tickets issued and 29 firearms seized.
- A table detailing citations issued and the operation of the city's speed camera

program.

- A report on complaints of officer misconduct, use-of-force incidents, in-custody deaths and vehicle crashes involving department employees.
- A list of Distinguished and Meritorious Service Citations for department employees.
- A section on the department's strategies and initiatives, including its focus on recruitment and retention with an emphasis on diversity in hiring, and increased training opportunities.

Find the report, which will be included in an annual report published by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments this summer, at www.rockville.md.gov/police. ❖



ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SUMMER CRIME PREVENTION TIPS... Don't advertise vacation plans. Have a trusted neighbor, friend or relative check on your home while you are away. Stop mail and paper deliveries. Set timers on lights in rooms that are normally used. Always lock bicycles to a stationary object. The best device is a hardened steel u-shaped lock. When working in the yard, make sure front, rear and garage doors are locked.

No Weed and Feed? No Problem! New Pesticide Law Doesn't Mean the End of Healthy Lawns

The Mayor and Council on April 26 voted unanimously to allow Montgomery County's pesticide law to apply in the city, effective Jan. 1, 2022. The law restricts the use of certain pesticides on private lawns, playgrounds, mulched recreation areas and child care facilities, prohibiting most synthetic pesticides.

Organic lawn care is healthier for children, pets and the environment. And it doesn't mean your lawn has to be any less healthy or green. Here are some simple things to do to make a successful switch to an organic lawn:

Take a soil test. Tests cost \$10-18 and will help you plan for what your lawn needs for good soil health.

Feed your soil (not with fertilizers). Core aerate the lawn if the soil is compacted, and feed the soil with compost, earthworm castings, compost tea or other natural materials to boost soil microorganisms.

Mow smart. Set your mower blade to cut higher than 4 inches and sharpen your blades after every 12 hours of use. Leaving the lawn longer is healthier for the grass, helps reduce weeds and means you'll mow less

frequently. Rather than bagging lawn clippings, just leave them to fertilize your lawn.

Use your hands, not herbicides. Pull a few weeds a day, or for an hour or two of healthy exercise each week. Leave some clover to help provide nitrogen to the soil, and tolerate a few dandelions, violets or other flowering plants that are good for pollinators and wildlife. Avoid quick or frequent watering sessions, which encourages weeds to grow. Water deeply, and infrequently, to promote healthy grass root growth.

Overseed and fight weeds. The denser your grass, the harder it is for weeds to become established. Check with a local landscape supplier or company that mixes certified seed blends for our region to get the best grass for your lawn. Fall is best for broad overseeding, but you can repair bare or thin patches of lawn in spring and summer.

To learn more, find the April 26 Mayor and Council agenda at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. For tips and additional information about organic lawn care, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns. 🌱

Six Easy Steps to Create a Certified Wildlife Habitat



PROVIDE FOOD
Add native plants that have nectar, fruits and seeds – this provides diverse food supplies throughout the year.



SUPPLY WATER
Water gardens, bird baths and even puddles are valuable water sources for drinking and bathing.



CREATE COVER
Cover, such as rock piles or evergreens, provides protection from weather, predators and people.



PROVIDE PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG
Many of the places wildlife use for cover, like trees or shrubs, are also ideal locations to raise young.



GARDEN SUSTAINABLY
Choose wildlife-friendly landscaping methods and reduce the use of lawn chemicals to support clean, safe drinking water for people and wildlife.



GET CERTIFIED
Show it proudly and help spread the word!
Certify your yard or land! Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/wildlifehabitat.

Rockville was named the 88th National Wildlife Federation-certified Community Wildlife Habitat in the United States in 2016. To learn more, visit RockvilleReports.com and search "wildlife." Follow the steps above to make your yard a certified wildlife habitat.

www.rockvillemd.gov/wildlifehabitat

Checklist to Reduce Mosquito Breeding on Your Property

Mosquito species that have the potential to spread the Zika virus prefer to breed in small amounts of standing water near where people live and work. They typically do not breed in natural areas like streams and ponds.



- ☐ **Empty out water from children's toys and plastic containers.**
If possible, bring indoors. Cover large toys and sand boxes with tightly fitting tarps, or drain weekly.
- ☐ **Remove trash from yard.**
As little as a bottle-cap full of water is enough for mosquitoes to breed.
- ☐ **Clean out roof gutters and downspout screens.**
If possible, replace corrugated down-spouts with smooth PVC.
- ☐ **Store recycling bins out of the rain. Dump out any water at least weekly.**
Even though bins have drain holes, small amounts of water may still collect.
- ☐ **Add an aerator or fountain to birdbaths or ornamental ponds.**
Mosquitoes do not breed in moving water.
- ☐ **Tighten tarps and pool covers to minimize folds.**
If water still collects, shake out the tarp at least weekly.
- ☐ **Fix outdoor leaks and dripping faucets.**
Get rid of puddles from window air conditioners.
- ☐ **Dump and scrub saucers under potted plants, and flush birdbaths at least once a week.**

Where to Check:

- Front yard.
- Backyard.
- Along edge of the property.
- Balconies (apartments too!).
- Deck.
- Roof and gutters (follow safety precautions).

Note: Mosquito species of concern typically do not fly more than 150 yards from where they breed.

Meet a Rockville Employee: Cpl. Derrick Tibbs

Cpl. Derrick Tibbs, an eight-year veteran of the Rockville City Police Department affectionately known as "Officer Smiley," is in his first year as the department's community services officer after serving as a patrol officer for most of his career. He took over the role in October from longtime CSO Ken Matney, who was promoted to sergeant. We asked Tibbs about his new role and his plans for community outreach to Rockville residents of all ages.

Tell us about your new role. What do you do as a community services officer?

As the CSO, I am assigned to the Special



Cpl. Derrick Tibbs

Operations Unit. The primary function of this position is to administer crime prevention and community outreach programs. I will coordinate department, public and community relations activities by maintaining open lines of communication with the community, assist residents and businesses with security assessments, and meet with community organizations and other groups to foster ongoing communication between the department and community.

How's it going so far?

Everything is going great! I am actively in neighborhoods and businesses try-

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Solar Co-op: Affordable Options for Rooftop Panels or Vehicle Chargers

If you are interested in rooftop solar, or are looking to install an electric vehicle charger, then this is the opportunity for you.

Registration is now open for the Capital Area Solar Co-op. Rockville is joining Arlington, Frederick and Montgomery counties, and Bowie, Falls Church, Frederick, Gaithersburg, Poolesville, Takoma Park and Washington, D.C. to promote residential solar installations.

Rockville will host a free virtual information session on Thursday, July 15. Other sessions are available. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/solarhomes to register for the information sessions and learn more about joining the co-op, which is free and does not commit you to purchase solar panels or EV charger. Information sessions will discuss the benefits of solar for homes and small businesses, including technology, economics and financing. Attendees will learn about the process, including whether their home is suitable for solar.

By working with a local nonprofit and community partners, co-op members receive guidance throughout the process and leverage group buying power to get a discount on installations. Each member signs an individual contract with the chosen installer, but all participants get the group discount. Co-op members will have an opportunity to take advantage of federal tax credits before they phase out. The co-op can include leasing or other financing options.

Synthetic pesticides cannot be used on lawns in Montgomery County



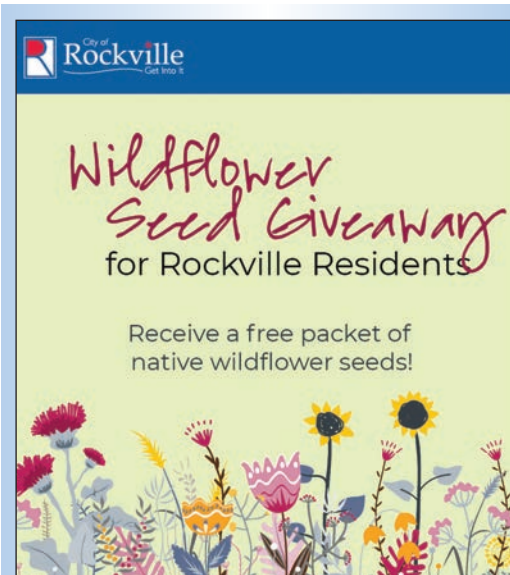
IT'S THE LAW.

Por ley, en el Condado de Montgomery está prohibido usar pesticidas sintéticos en el césped.

No productos de "weed & feed" en el césped.



MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/Lawns



EX-SEED-INGLY EXCITING! ... Get wild and make your summer a little more colorful. The city is giving away free native wildflower seeds to Rockville residents. To get your seed packet, fill out the form at www.rockvillemd.gov/environment. Learn more about how you can help make wildlife feel right at home with "Six Easy Steps to Create a Certified Wildlife Habitat," on this page.



BE SAFE AS GRILLING SEASON APPROACHES ... Nicer weather means it's time to grill. When you do, be safe! Only grill outdoors, well away from your home, deck and overhanging branches. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from the grill. Keep the grill clean and free from grease or fat buildup. And never leave a grill unattended. Find these tips and more at www.nfpa.org.

Tips for Self-Care During Times of Stress

The City of Rockville Community Services Division can help residents access services to address health, mental health, housing, financial insecurity, food insecurity, child care and more.

Here are some tips from the DHCD to help find calm during times of stress:

- Take care of basic needs, for example, sleep, relaxation time, time outside, nutrition or talking to friends.
- When you're calmer, think about what's causing the stress or upset, and about how to alleviate or solve that problem.
- If you need additional help, reach out to family, friends and your community. Connect with Rockville's Community Services Division if you need professional help.

To see more of Rockville's community assistance programs, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/hcd or call 240-314-8300.

Survey Launched to Investigate Scope of Social Justice, Racism, Bias and Wellness in Rockville

The Human Rights and Human Services Advisory commissions of the City of Rockville have launched a communitywide survey to assess the state of social justice, racism, bias and wellness in the city.

The survey is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese and Korean. More information and a link to the survey are available at www.rockvillemd.gov/humanrights, or scan the QR code. The survey can be taken anonymously and will remain open for at least 60 days.

Paper surveys are available on request by calling the Department of Housing and Community Development at 240-314-8300.

Become an Ambassador for Rockville

Ready to make a difference in your community? How about signing on to become a Rockville Community Ambassador?

Rockville Community Ambassadors are local volunteers who represent the City of Rockville in their neighborhood. Their role is to serve as connectors, providing direct support to residents while creating awareness of events and opportunities within their community.

The program is open to all community members age 18 years or older, including residents, local business owners and members of community organizations who would like to impact the city in a positive way.

Interested applicants must attend one training session and be willing to serve for six months.

For more information, contact senior community engagement coordinator Hjarman Cordero at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8344.

Shopping Safety: Crime Prevention Tips

Anyone can become a victim of a crime of opportunity. The Rockville City Police Department offers these tips to protect you from crime while out shopping:

- Don't carry any more cash than is necessary. Many grocery stores accept checks and automatic teller cards instead of cash.
- Don't display large sums of cash.
- Use checks where possible.
- If you carry a purse:
 - Carry it very close to you.
 - Don't dangle it from your arm.
 - Never leave it in a shopping cart.
 - Never leave it unattended.

Remember that crime prevention is everyone's responsibility. Make it tough for criminals to work in your neighborhood.

Find more crime and safety tips with the Rockville City Police Department's weekly crime reports at www.rockvillemd.gov/271/Weekly-Crime-Reports.



Health and Wellness, Coming Up at the Senior Center

Stay home and stay well with free online seminars from the Rockville Senior Center in July and August.

Register with the course number online at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov for more information.

Sessions are free, and run from 1-2 p.m., except where noted.

Stress Reduction/ Meditation

Tools to focus, relax, and come to a more peaceful sense of being with meditation and discussion. Course #19035, Monday, June 28-Aug. 30. Members, \$30; nonmembers, \$40.

Basic First Aid: Summer Edition

Discuss basic first aid and treatments for summer injuries, including sunburn, insect bites and stings, and heat-related injuries. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. Course #19069. Tuesday, July 13.

COVID-19 and Caregiving

Learn about the relationship between dementia and COVID-19, tips for caregivers during the pandemic, and Alzheimer's Association resources. Presented by Sheila Griffith, Alzheimer's Association. Course #19034, Wednesday, July 14.

Caring for the Caregiver/ Taking Care of Yourself

A workshop/dialogue to provide tools to care for that important someone, and to take care of yourself. Geared to the senior community, but all are welcome. Presented by Maude Harrison-Hudson, bereavement counselor and minister, Montgomery Hospice. Course #19031, Wednesday, July 21.

A Refreshing Look at Hydration

Leni Barry, a Suburban Hospital HeartWell nurse, will explain the dangers of dehydration and benefits of keeping hydrated. Course #19662, Thursday, July 22.

Summer Skin Care

Remedies for skin problem and how to naturally treat problem areas. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. Course #19068. Tuesday, Aug. 3.

Hands Only CPR with AED Demo

A quick, in-person session on how to perform hands-only CPR. This is not a certification class. Course #19067, Wednesday, Aug. 4, 1-1:45 p.m. Course #19663, Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2-2:45 p.m.

10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

Age or Alzheimer's? Learn the difference between normal aging and when symptoms

continued on pg. 8...

Celebrate the Fourth Without Fireworks

The Fourth of July is a time to celebrate. The City of Rockville encourages you to do so safely and reminds residents that the private use and possession of fireworks, including sparklers, is illegal in Maryland and carries a \$500 fine.

Fireworks include firecrackers, skyrockets and Roman candles. Selling fireworks is also illegal and carries a \$1,000 fine. Public fireworks displays require proper permits and insurance.

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service asks adults to teach children that fireworks are not toys and to explain their dangers.

Fireworks were involved with an estimated 10,000 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments

in 2019, including 7,300 between June 21 and July 21, according to a study by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. More than one-third of those injuries were to children younger than 15 and more than half were to people younger than 20.

Find the CPSC study and tips for firework safety at www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks.

Learn more about what you should know about fireworks in Montgomery County at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcfrs-info/tips/citizens/fireworks.html.

To report illegal fireworks, call the Rockville City Police Department's non-emergency line at 240-314-8900. 🌸

New Deputy City Manager

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manager's absence.

"I am excited for the opportunity to introduce Angela to the Rockville organization and community," DiSpirito said. "She was the top professional for this position following a competitive, nationwide search that attracted over 100 applicants. Angela's exceptional talents and abilities will be put to wonderful use, helping to lead some of the Mayor and Council's forward-looking priorities with the dedicated team of professionals we have on city staff."

Judge was promoted to assistant city manager of Elizabeth City in 2016. Her duties have included management of special projects, overseeing various departments, ordinance policy research and development, serving as public information officer, and assisting the city manager with budget preparations and presentations. Judge has overseen the completion of millions of dollars in capital projects. Previously, she served as Elizabeth City's assistant to the city manager, interim planning director, human resources director and senior planner.

Judge previously served as legislative assistant to the chief of staff for the City of

Atlanta. Earlier, she was the legislative aide to the mayor of the City of Atlanta, and was an intergovernmental liaison/planner II for Cobb County, Georgia.

Judge is an alumna of Spelman College and earned a Master of Science in Urban Policy Studies, Planning and Economic Development from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. She also completed a residency program at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Recreation and Parks Director Tim Chesnutt has served as Rockville's interim deputy city manager since October, following the resignation of Jennifer Kimball, who had accepted the position of deputy county administrator for Kent County, Michigan.

The City of Rockville operates under a council-manager form of government. The city manager is responsible to the Mayor and the Council for the day-to-day management of city operations. Under provisions of the city charter and code, the city manager prepares a budget for the Mayor and Council's approval; recruits, hires and supervises staff; serves as the Mayor and Council's chief administrative officer; implements Mayor and Council policies; and provides professional recommendations. 🌸

How do *you* imagine RedGate Park's future?

Help envision — and design — RedGate's future.



Visit EngageRockville.com, register, and join the conversation.

Registration not only allows you to continue the discussion and send us your ideas, it means you'll receive updates about this legacy city project.

请协助我们策划RedGate Park的未来。请访问 engagerockville.com/redgate-park 以了解有关策划过程的更新内容。

Ayude a planear el futuro del Parque RedGate. Por favor revise engagerockville.com/redgate-park para las actualizaciones en el proceso de planeación.



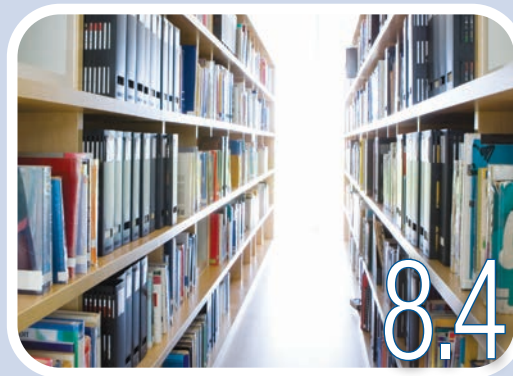
MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel, (youtube.com/cityofrockville): Revisit Rockville's inaugural Juneteenth celebration with "The Power of Now" and view the Mayor and Council's proclamation designating July Parks and Recreation Month.

July/August CALENDAR

FACILITIES LEGEND:

- CC** Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- GM** Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- FSF** F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- LP** Lincoln Park Community Ctr., 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
- CH** Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- SR** Rockville Senior Ctr., 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- SFC** Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr., 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- TF** Thomas Farm Community Ctr., 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
- TC** Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

- V** Virtual Program/Offering
- F** Facebook Live Event



JULY: 1,15 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: WOMEN LIVING ALONE** **V** A support group where members support each other by listening, expressing concern, and offering tips, suggestions and advice. Call 240-314-8800 to register. Join virtually or by phone. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

2,9,16,23 **COMPUTER CODING** Explore advances that allow society to be computerized. Focuses on specific areas of simulation, modeling, computer graphics and block coding. 10 a.m.-noon **SR**

2,9,16,23,30 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: MANAGING STRESS DURING THE PANDEMIC** **V** An ongoing support and educational group to help cope with isolation, anxiety, depression, loss, etc., as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn coping skills from facilitator and each other. Join virtually or by phone. Meets every Friday. Free. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

3,10,17,24,31 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

5 **INDEPENDENCE DAY** observed. Rockville government will be closed. See the article on page 1.

6,13,20,27 **TUESDAY EVENING BIKE RIDES.** See article on page 4.

6,20 **RELATING TO YOUR ADULT CHILDREN** Explore motives behind hurtful behavior and discuss ways to set protective boundaries, promote healthier relationships with adult children and advocate for your needs. Meets first and third Tuesdays. 2:30-4 p.m. **SR**

7 **FIRE SAFETY: BATTERIES AND MORE** **V** Smoke alarms are an essential part of a fire-safety strategy. Jim Resnick will provide tips and resources for a safer home. 10:30-11:30 a.m. **SR**

8,22 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: MEN LIVING ALONE** Join other men and share the challenges and joys of living by yourself. Meets second and fourth Thursday of each month. Join virtually or by phone. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

12,19,26 **MEMORY CAFÉ** Meets every Monday. New participants must contact representative Sheila Griffith at 240-844-3608 or sagriffith@alz.org prior to attending. Noon-1:30 p.m. **SR**

13 **BASIC FIRST AID: SUMMER EDITION** **V** Discuss basic first-aid treatments associated with summer injuries, such as sunburn, insect bites and stings, heat-related injuries and more. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. Free. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

13,27 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: BRAIN GAMES** **V** Work your brain and compete with peers in various games and puzzles. Meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Join virtually or by phone. Free. 2:30-4 p.m. **SR**

14 **COVID-19 AND CAREGIVING** **V** 1-2 p.m. See the article on page 6. **SR**

15 **SOLAR CO-OP VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION.** See article on page 5.

15 **PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY.** **V** See ad on page 2.

21 **CAN I SELL MY HOUSE AND BUY ANOTHER ONE SIMULTANEOUSLY?** **V** Find out steps involved in selling and buying in today's market with Realtor Coni Otto. 10:30-11:30 AM **SR**

21 **CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER/TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF** **V** 1-2 p.m. See the article on page 6. **SR**

22 **A REFRESHING LOOK AT HYDRATION** **V** 1-2 p.m. See the article on page 6. **SR**

22 **DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE** **V** Virtual discussion and Q&A on draft climate action plan survey results, consultant analysis and draft actions. 7-8:30 p.m.

28 **MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION** **V** Patricia Dorn, outreach staffer, provides information about homeowners and renters insurance. 10:30-11:30 a.m. **SR**

AUGUST: 2,9,16,23,30 **MEMORY CAFÉ** **V** Noon-1:30 p.m. See July 12 calendar entry. **SR**

3 **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** See article on page 2.

3,17 **RELATING TO YOUR ADULT CHILDREN** See July entry for info. **SR**

3,10,17,24,31 **TUESDAY EVENING BIKE RIDES.** See article on page 4.

4 **MAKING THE MOST OF THE LIBRARY DURING COVID** **V** How to utilize the library during COVID-19, including technology loan programs, presentations, and book or DVD rentals. 10:30-11:30 a.m. **SR**

4 **HANDS-ONLY CPR WITH AED DEMO: OUTDOORS** 1-1:45 p.m. and 2-2:45 p.m. See the article on page 6. **SR**

5,19 **WOMEN LIVING ALONE** **V** See July entry for info. **SR**

6,12,20,27 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: MANAGING STRESS DURING THE PANDEMIC** **V** See July entry for info. **SR**

7,14,21,28 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

10,24 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: BRAIN GAMES** Free. 2:30-4 p.m. See July 13 calendar entry. **SR**

11 **10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S** **V** 1-2 p.m. See the article on page 6. **SR**

12,26 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: MEN LIVING ALONE** Free. 1-2:30 p.m. See July 8 calendar entry. **SR**

18 **ALL ABOUT COMPRESSION SOCKS** **V** 1-2 p.m. See the article on page 6. **SR**

R = Residents • NR = Nonresidents • MEM = Member • NM = Nonmember

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR.ASPX

Rockville Farmers Market

SATURDAYS
May 15-Nov. 20 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Corner of Route 28 and Monroe Street.
WIC and EBT/SNAP accepted.

GETTING THERE: Metro: Red Line • Ride On • Bus 47 and 56
Free parking available.

City of Rockville
www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers • 240-314-8620

ROCKVILLE ARTS FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE!

140+ UNIQUE ARTISTS
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
ARTISANAL FOOD
ART DEMONSTRATIONS

Artwork by A. Simcoe
2019 Award winner

Saturday September 4, & Sunday September 5, 11 AM – 5 PM
www.rockvilleartsfestival.org

First Phase of New Online Permitting System to Go Live in July

MyGovernmentOnline, the first phase of a new permitting and planning platform, will go on-line in July.

The new permit application process will be more convenient, and applicants will be able to track and manage all applications online. Permits will be searchable and permit reports viewable.

The system will provide a fully integrated online application, payment, plan submittal and review, and inspection service.

MGO will replace the current online application portal, application forms and email application process.

The first phase will include all permits related to building, fire protection and trades, and associated trade licenses. Future phases will include development projects, additional licenses, public works permits and more.

Rockville Goes Purple in September to Raise Opioid Addiction Awareness

Rockville's Mayor and Council will in August proclaim September as National Recovery Month, and the city will hold several events as part of Rockville Goes Purple, a continuing campaign to shine a spotlight on the nationwide impact of opioid addiction.

The theme of this year's Rockville Goes Purple campaign is "Opioids: Let's Talk About It," which encourages dialogue about, and openness around, the problems of opioid addiction, and awareness about the dangers of stigmatizing addiction.

The Mayor and Council will issue the proclamation Aug. 2 at their final meeting before summer recess.

Several events have been planned to mark National Recovery Month. Purple lights will once again illuminate City Hall, Rockville City Police Department headquarters and other city facilities.

The Mayor and Council will hold a remembrance ceremony before their meeting when they return to official business on Monday, Sept. 13. The event will feature a speaker and informational tables.

Other events will include a drug take-back day, training in the opioid overdose reversal drug Narcan, a panel discussion with local experts that will air on Rockville 11, and a discussion of the HBO documentary, "The Crime of the Century," with Jonathan Novak. Local artist Suzanne Firstenberg will bring her opioid-related exhibit to display for the month at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., beginning Sept. 1.

Check September's edition of "Rockville Reports" and the city's online calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx for information as details develop.

To learn more about the Rockville Goes Purple campaign, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple.

COVID-19: Roundup

continued from pg. 1...

by the CDC and Maryland Department of Health.

The City of Rockville will not ask visitors to share their vaccination status.

Signage will be posted at all city facilities that are open to the public advising that fully vaccinated visitors are no longer required to wear face coverings while visiting the facility and asking that unvaccinated visitors continue to wear face coverings to protect themselves.

Find more information about the City of Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov.

Senior Center Reopened

The Rockville Senior Center, including its fitness room, has returned to normal operations for drop-in. Reservations are no longer required.

Masks will no longer be required for vaccinated visitors. Unvaccinated individuals will still be encouraged to wear face coverings to protect themselves. Masks and face coverings will still need to be worn by staff and riders on Rockville Senior Center buses.

The center, and fitness room, will initially be open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. As participation increases, hours will be adjusted. Members will be notified.

Call the Rockville Senior Center at 240-314-8800 with questions. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter for more information.

Health and Wellness at Senior Center

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reveal a larger problem. Presented by Sheila Griffith, Alzheimer's Association. Course #19033, Wednesday, Aug. 11.

Skin Care Clinic

A dermatologist will be available for appointments starting Thursday, Aug. 12. Clinic will be second Thursday of each month and appointment only. Insurance will be charged. Call 1-877-345-5300 for an appointment.

Other Facilities

The Civic Center Park, which includes the Glenview Mansion and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, has reopened, as has Croydon Creek Nature Center. The Rockville Civic Center Business Office, mansion and theater, and nature center are open to drop-in visits without an appointment during business hours.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's fitness room, outdoor recreation pool, including the water slide, tot pool, and sprayground is open. Reservations are no longer required. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter.

Finding Food

Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19-food for a list of food resources around the county and other important information. Rockville seniors can call the senior center at 240-314-8810, from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Senior center meal distributions are scheduled for Wednesdays.

Checking In

Maryland's Senior Call Check Program is a daily call program to verify seniors' wellbeing. Participants can register on Maryland's website (aging.maryland.gov/pages/senior-call-check.aspx) and choose a time for their scheduled call.

If you require assistance, call or email the Rockville Senior Center, 240-314-8800 or seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

Compression Socks

Foot specialist Akukeng Mba will discuss compression socks: what they are, when to use them and their benefits. Course #19661. Wednesday, Aug. 18.

Demystifying Your Thyroid

Dr. Aarti Mathur, an endocrine surgeon with Johns Hopkins Division of Surgical Oncology, will review the signs and symptoms of thyroid diseases, and risk factors for thyroid cancer. Course #19490, Thursday, Aug. 26.

COG Transportation Board Removes I-270/I-495 Toll Lanes from Project List

The Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board in June removed Gov. Larry Hogan's toll lane plans for I-495 and I-270 from a list of projects to be included in the required air quality analysis of the region's long-range transportation improvement plan.

The removal leaves the plan for toll lanes at greater risk of not receiving federal environmental approval.

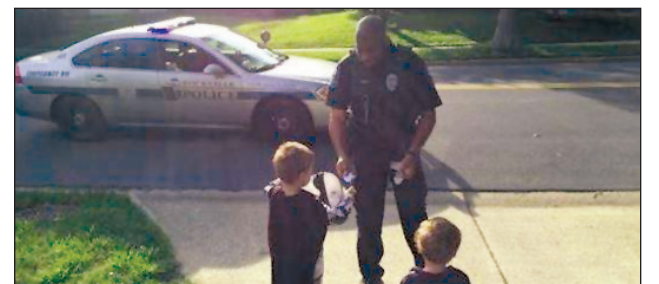
Rockville Mayor Bridget Newton, a member and former chairperson of the TPB, has, along with the Rockville City Council, opposed the project.

Newton expressed serious concerns about the impact the I-270 project would have on adjacent city neighborhoods.

"This is not ready for prime time," Newton said, according to a TPB press release. "This project does nothing to move our region forward — not in social justice, not in environmental justice, and it's not the way we should be going."

Read more about the June 16 TPB meeting at www.mwcog.org/newsroom/2021/06/22/tpb-moves-plan-update-forward-removes-md-toll-lanes.

For more on the Mayor and Council's advocacy against the state project to add toll lanes to interstates 270 and 495 between the American Legion Bridge and Frederick, visit www.rockvillemd.gov and search "I-270."



Cpl. Derrick Tibbs, shown here in 2016, was putting the community in community policing long before being named the department's community services officer.

Meet a Employee

continued from pg. 5...

ing to meet the citizens of Rockville. There's a lot of learning and challenges but I'm enjoying all my experiences, without a doubt.

Any community programs that you'd like to highlight?

National Night Out returns this year, on Tuesday, Aug. 3. (See the article on page 2.) We'll continue to offer opportunities to meet officers throughout the year with Coffee with a Cop events. In May, we completed the latest Senior Police Academy for community members aged 60-plus. We hope to announce the return of the Rockville Community Police Academy soon. I will be visiting all city camps this summer to meet our campers and I'm working on bringing special guests to some.

Anything else we should know?

I am looking forward to one of my biggest projects: starting a Police Athletic/Activities League (national pal.org) chapter for our Rockville youth. PAL chapters nationwide promote the prevention of juvenile crime and violence by building relationships among kids, cops and the community. PAL offers several programs, including athletics, education, outdoor activities and art programs. The pandemic put things on hold last year, but with COVID-19 restrictions relaxing, I'm hoping we will be good to go this year.

Practice good petiquette in our parks!

Keep your pet on a leash at all times. **If your pet makes a mess, clean it up!**

City of Rockville

Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

Reach out to Rockville City Manager Rob DiSpirito at rdspirito@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8102.



Get Into It

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BACK IN THE DAY ... Rockville's bike friendliness was about to be boosted in 2013 with the debut of 13 Capital Bikeshare stations in fall. Bikeshare allows cyclists to rent a bike from a designated station and drop it off at other stations within the Capital Bikeshare network. Visit www.capitalbikeshare.com for more information.